



City of Seattle
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Department of Planning and Development
D. M. Sugimura, Director

**CITY OF SEATTLE
ANALYSIS AND DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Application Number: 3020290
Applicant Name: Brandon Winters
Address of Proposal: 4106 Linden Ave N

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ACTION

Land Use Application to subdivide one parcel into two parcels of land. Proposed parcel sizes are: A) 2,220 sq. ft. and B) 2,577 sq. ft. Existing structures on the property will be demolished.

The following approval is required:

Short Subdivision - to subdivide one existing parcel into two parcels of land.
(Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 23.24)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Zoning: Lowrise -2 (LR2).

Uses on Site: One single family residence and a detached garage.

Site Description This 4,797 square foot project site is located in a multifamily residential zone. The parcel is a rectangular lot located on the southwest corner of Linden Ave N and N 41st Street. The existing single family structure and detached garage will be demolished .

Existing landscaping on site consists of four trees along the southern property line and a grouping of three trees in the northwest corner. Of the seven trees onsite one has been designated as *Exceptional* by the City of Seattle Arborist. Exceptional trees are trees which are an important community resource based on the unique ecological or aesthetic value, their species and size. The exceptional tree on this project site is an Araucaria Araucana (Monkey Puzzle Tree) that is 23.8" in size and located along the Linden Ave N. All trees on site were evaluated by the applicant's arborist and the City arborist to ensure proper size, location, and species identification. In addition, the City arborist conducted a site visit to evaluate the trees and

neighboring properties to determine if a “grove” (a grouping of 8 or more trees 12” in diameter or greater that form a continuous canopy) was present. No grove was found on site as some of the trees along the property edges do not have a trunk diameter of at least 12 inches. The subject site is not located within any identified or designated Environmentally Critical Areas.

Linden Ave N is an improved street with a paved roadway, curbs, gutters and sidewalks. These streets are classified as a Non-arterial street, pursuant to SMC Chapter 23.53.

Surrounding properties to the west are also zoned LR2. Development along Linden Ave N consists of both single family and multifamily family structures. Properties to the east are located in a Commercial 1 (C1-40) zone and developed with a variety of commercial business, mixed use building and single purpose residential structures.

Public Comment

The public comment period began on May 7, 2015. The comments received regarding the short plat raised concerns regarding the loss of existing trees on site, plan accuracy, the impact of new development on the light and air of surrounding properties and the potential for rent increases new development can inspire.

ANALYSIS – SUBDIVISION

General short subdivision standards: Pursuant to SMC 23.24.040, the Director shall, after conferring with appropriate officials, use the following criteria to determine whether to grant, condition, or deny a short plat:

- 1. Conformance to the applicable Land Use Code provisions, as modified by this chapter;*
- 2. Adequacy of access for pedestrians, vehicles, utilities and fire protection as provided in Section 23.53.005, Access to lots, and Section 23.53.006, Pedestrian access and circulation;*
- 3. Adequacy of drainage, water supply and sanitary sewage disposal;*
- 4. Whether the public use and interests are served by permitting the proposed division of land;*
- 5. Conformance to the applicable provisions of Section 25.09.240, Short subdivisions and subdivisions, in environmentally critical areas;*
- 6. Whether the proposed division of land is designed to maximize the retention of existing trees;*
- 7. Conformance to the provisions of Section 23.24.045, Unit lot subdivisions, when the short subdivision is for the purpose of creating separate lots of record for the construction and/or transfer of title of townhouse, rowhouse, and cottage housing developments as permitted in Single-Family, Residential Small Lot, and Lowrise zones and for single-family dwelling units in Lowrise zones, or any combination of the above types of residential development, as permitted in the applicable zones; and;*

8. *Conformance to the provisions of Section 23.24.046, multiple single-family dwelling units on a single-family lot, when the short subdivision is for the purpose of creating two or more lots from one lot with more than one existing single-family dwelling unit.*
9. *Every lot except unit lots and lots proposed to be platted for individual live-work units in zones where live-work units are permitted, shall conform to the following standards for lot configuration, unless a special exception is authorized under subsection 23.24.040.B:*
 - a. *If a lot is proposed with street frontage, then one lot line shall abut the street for at least 10 feet; and*
 - b. *No lot shall be less than 10 feet wide for a distance of more than 10 feet as measured at any point; and*
 - c. *No proposed lot shall have more than six separate lot lines. The lot lines shall be straight lines, unless the irregularly shaped lot line is caused by an existing right-of-way or an existing lot line; and*
 - d. *If the property proposed for subdivision is adjacent to an alley, and the adjacent alley is either improved or required to be improved according to the standards of Section 23.53.030, then no new lot shall be proposed that does not provide alley access, except that access from a street to an existing use or structure is not required to be changed to alley access. Proposed new lots shall have sufficient frontage on the alley to meet access standards for the zone in which the property is located.*

Conclusion

Based on information provided by the applicant, referral comments from DPD and other City Departments, and review and analysis by the Land Use Planner, the above criteria have been met. The short subdivision meets all minimum standards or applicable exceptions set forth in the Land Use Code. This short subdivision will provide vehicular access (including emergency vehicles), and public and private utilities. Adequate provisions for drainage control, water supply and sanitary sewage disposal will be provided for each lot and service is assured, subject to standard conditions governing utility extensions. The proposed plat maximizes the retention of existing trees since the disposition of the trees would not be improved by an alternative plot layout. Trees and other landscaping standards are considered under the building permit reviews. The public use and interest are served by the proposal since all applicable criteria are met and the proposal creates the potential for additional housing opportunities in the City.

DECISION –SHORT SUBDIVISION

The proposed Short Subdivision is **GRANTED.**

CONDITION OF APPROVAL PRIOR TO RECORDING

None.

Signature: retagonzales-cunneutabby for Date: October 1, 2015
Glenda Warmoth, Land Use Planner II,
Department of Planning and Development

GW:rgc
K:\Decisions-Signed\3020290.docx

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ISSUANCE OF YOUR MASTER USE PERMIT

Master Use Permit Expiration and Issuance

The appealable land use decision on your Master Use Permit (MUP) application has now been published. At the conclusion of the appeal period, your permit will be considered “approved for issuance”. (If your decision is appealed, your permit will be considered “approved for issuance” on the fourth day following the City Hearing Examiner’s decision.) Projects requiring a Council land use action shall be considered “approved for issuance” following the Council’s decision.

The “approved for issuance” date marks the beginning of the **three year life** of the MUP approval, whether or not there are outstanding corrections to be made or pre-issuance conditions to be met. The permit must be issued by DPD within that three years or it will expire and be cancelled (SMC 23-76-028). (Projects with a shoreline component have a **two year life**. Additional information regarding the effective date of shoreline permits may be found at 23.60.074.)

All outstanding corrections must be made, any pre-issuance conditions met and all outstanding fees paid before the permit is issued. You will be notified when your permit has issued.

Questions regarding the issuance and expiration of your permit may be addressed to the Public Resource Center at prc@seattle.gov or to our message line at 206-684-8467.